



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/681,397	10/08/2003	David A. Little	2003PI3579US	7438
7590	06/24/2005		EXAMINER	CASAREGOLA, LOUIS J
Siemens Corporation Intellectual Property Department 170 Wood Avenue South Iselin, NJ 08830			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3746	
				DATE MAILED: 06/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SPL

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/681,397	LITTLE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Louis J. Casaregola	3746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 4-17 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Becker.

The claimed operating method reads on the normal operation of conventional gas turbine cooling systems of the type disclosed by Becker. Attention is called to Becker's Figure 1; note that air from the exit of compressor 2 is routed via extraction port 13 and flow path 8 to the rotor and disc sections of turbine 3. Flow path 8 includes no closure means so it will supply air to the turbine during all modes of operation, including steady state and base load operation. Flow path 8 also includes no cooling means so that the air supplied to the turbine through this path will not exhibit a substantial temperature reduction below compressor exit temperature.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker in view of the Pratt & Whitney Publication.

Claim 2 recites a compressor exit temperature of about 450° C, which is approximately 842° F. While Becker does not disclose a specific compressor exit temperature, the claimed value is clearly within the conventional range for this parameter as shown, for example, by two engines from the Pratt & Whitney Publication; note that the

JT8D and the JT9D have respective compressor exit temperatures 800° and 880° F. It would have thus been obvious to use air at 450° C (842° F) in Becker's flow path 8 since this temperature falls well within the normally expected limits for the compressor discharge air available at extraction port 13.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-17 are allowed.

Additional References

Schwarz and Klingels are cited as disclosing further pertinent examples of gas turbine cooling systems.

L. J. Casaregola
571-272-4826 (M-F; 7:30-4:00)
703-872-9306 FAX
June 16, 2005


LOUIS J. CASAREGOLA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 3746

If repeated attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the art unit supervisor, Timothy Thorpe, can be reached at 571-272-4444.

Information regarding the status of this application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR, and status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).